

Amendments to and Listing of the Claims

Please delete claim 5 so that the claims read as follows:

1. (previously presented) A polymer electrolyte fuel cell comprising a stack containing a plurality of unit cells laminated, compressed and retained via retaining plates, said unit cells each comprising a pair of electrodes sandwiching a polymer electrolyte membrane and conductive separator plates having a gas supply channel on at least one surface thereof and sandwiching said electrodes,

wherein said retaining plates each consist essentially of two plates having an undulate cross section, has hollow sections which are separated from one another, and forms a gap between said unit cells such that one of said unit cells or a cell module comprising a plurality of said unit cells between said retaining plates is removed and installed.

2. (previously presented) The polymer electrolyte fuel cell in accordance with claim 1, wherein cooling water flows through said hollow sections between said unit cells or said cell module comprising a plurality of said unit cells.

3. (previously presented) The polymer electrolyte fuel cell in accordance with claim 1, wherein one of said conductive separator plates is provided for every two unit cells and has a cooling water flow channel, and one of said retaining plates is provided for every one cell module comprising a plurality of said unit cells.

4. (previously presented) The polymer electrolyte fuel cell in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a voltage measurement jig and a voltage display device for said unit cells.

5. (canceled)

6. (previously presented) A polymer electrolyte fuel cell comprising a stack containing a plurality of unit cells laminated, compressed and retained via retaining plates, said unit cells each comprising a pair of electrodes sandwiching a polymer electrolyte membrane and conductive separator plates having a gas supply channel on at least one surface thereof and sandwiching said electrodes,

wherein said retaining plates each consist essentially of two plates having an undulate cross section, has hollow sections which are separated from one another, and forms a gap between said unit cells such that one of said unit cells or a cell module comprising a plurality of said unit cells between said retaining plates is removed and installed, and

wherein one of said conductive separator plates is provided for every two unit cells and has a cooling water flow channel, and one of said retaining plates is provided for every one cell module comprising a plurality of said unit cells.